



A "NEAR SHAVE" FOR EUROPE!

Vol. 39, No. 1
Spring, 1994

In my article *Will The Earth Be Struck Again Soon?*, published in FSR 30/5 (June 1985) I discussed some of the "narrow escapes" or "near shaves" (and also the "hits") that our planet has had with regard to comets and asteroids over the centuries, and the likelihood, now emphasised by many scientists, that the Universe is a far more dangerous place than our complacent Victorian forefathers had assumed, and that a devastating new impact may not be far off.

Well, the good news at present is that we, in Western Europe at least, have just had another jolly good and jolly welcome "near shave", for Signor Tullio Regge's proposal that the European Parliament should establish an organization, no doubt to be in Belgium or in France, for the purpose of gathering and studying UFO reports, has been rejected!

Seemingly, before many days had passed it had already transpired that there were a lot of folk in Brussels and in Strasbourg who were hell-bent on making sure that, if Tullio Regge's proposal were indeed accepted, the existing French Government organ SEPRA (SERVICE FOR ASSESSMENT OF ATMOSPHERIC RE-ENTRY PHENOMENA), a branch of the French CNES (NATIONAL CENTRE FOR SPACE RESEARCH, at Toulouse), should be given the job — and, no doubt of course, vast funds for it!

So what a splendid piece of news it is that the European Parliament turned down Tullio Regge's dangerous proposal — though it seems it is reported that he still plans to lodge an appeal about it.

For what are the true facts about SEPRA? SEPRA, as we have shown at length in FSR with our translations of articles by the French scientist Dr. Jean-Pierre Petit, is nothing but a renascent, re-vamped version of the notorious old GEPAN which — as everybody now knows, had been set up by the French Government in the first place with two objectives, namely (1) to hive off any available UFO reports from the French public, and (2) to make quite sure that no information about UFOs was ever given out to the world — in other words it was, and is, a permanent DEPARTMENT OF DEBUNKING.

The Conservative M.P. for Southend, Sir Teddy Taylor, who is no pal of Brussels or of the European Union or of Monsieur Jacques Delors, launched a series of merry quips against Signor Regge's "madcap" proposal, both in debates in the House of Commons and in interviews with the press. As he put it, "Brussels had already lumbered us with a *Mountain of Butter*, a *Lake of Wine*, and now it looked as though we were going to get a *Mountain of Flying Saucers*!"

I telephoned to Sir Teddy and had a very nice chat with him and assured him that I fully agreed about Brussels! But I added that he was wrong if he thought — as he told me he thought — that "UFOs were all nonsense", and I sent him the last three issues of FSR. In his reply to me of December 22, 1993, on House of Commons notepaper, he thanked me for the FSRs and said "*of course I find it fascinating*".

However, by January 3 of this year, he was at it again in the *Daily Mail*, attacking the scheme for a costly observatory in France, to cost many millions of pounds. He said the organization "*would probably be given a solemn scientific title, but all it is is a plotter of fanciful flying saucers*".

In a further letter to Sir Teddy Taylor, on February 7, I said I had taken due note of the discrepancy between what he had written to me about FSR and what he was now saying for public consumption in the *Daily Mail* but, I added: "*I appreciate that there are subjects on which MPs can get into very nasty trouble if they say too much*". G.C. ■

REPORT FROM MY SISTER IN SARDINIA

(By Giovanna, an Italian lady now living and working in London. Full name and address and other details in FSR's confidential files).

My home town, where I was born, is Sassari, in north-western Sardinia, and my sister Graziella still lives there. This is the story of what happened to her last year.

At 5.30 a.m. on Sunday, December 12, 1993, Graziella and her friend, a girl named Grazia, were driving home after having been away, spending the night with friends. As they were nearing Sassari, but

still out in the complete countryside, they suddenly saw an enormous triangular craft flying very slowly and at a height of no more than three or four metres above the ground! It was right above the road ahead of them, and no more than about twenty metres in front of their car.

Their first reaction was one of sheer panic, for they felt certain that the thing was about to crash down on them. But, to their amazement, they watched it